

Board of Vocational Nursing
And Psychiatric Technicians
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205
Sacramento, California 95833

Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.
Executive Officer

Issue X, April 2001

License Verification Available Online



Online license verification of licensed vocational nurses and psychiatric technicians is now available on the Board's internet website at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

In December, 2000, Board staff began working with the Department of Consumer Affairs' Internet Team to develop the online license verification feature. This permits consumers, employers and licensees to check on the status of PT and VN licenses online.

The system allows the user to search by name or license number, and provides the name, license number, expiration date, county of residence and license status, as well as any post-licensure certification such as blood withdrawal or intravenous therapy and any disciplinary actions taken against the license.

The Board's initial license verification system, was placed online April 2001. The enforcement action portion of the system is being developed and should be available by May 2001.

Nursing Shortage Update



Nursing's efforts to publicize the nursing shortage are paying off. In February 2001, the American Nurses Association and other nursing representatives spoke before Congress to identify significant elements of the current shortage.

In California, legislators acted on information generated by the California Strategic Planning Committee for Nursing (CSPCN). In the 1999-2000 Legislative session, Assembly Bill (AB) 655 (Scott) was enacted to establish an Advisory Committee to determine how best to address methods to increase and improve nursing education.

Several bills introduced in the current legislative session deal with the shortage by various means.

(Continued on page 2, see NURSING)

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians is to protect the public welfare by ensuring that only qualified persons are licensed vocational nurses and psychiatric technicians by enforcing education requirements, standards of practice and by educating consumers of their rights.

IN THIS ISSUE...

Plastic License Implementation.....	3
PT Occupational Analysis.....	3
Legislative Update.....	4
NCLEX-PN Test Workshop.....	7
California Energy Challenge.....	11
Enforcement.....	9-15
And More.....	

NURSING

(Continued from Page 1)

They include:

- ❖ **AB 87 (Jackson).** This bill would award grants to community college districts to provide training to nurses in specialty care areas such as critical care, emergency, obstetrics, pediatrics, neonatal intensive care and operating room nursing.
- ❖ **AB 644 (Cox).** This bill would direct the Department of Health Services to suspend enforcement of the regulation that requires a nurse to have one year of prior professional experience before being employed by a home health agency. The bill, if passed, will allow new nursing graduates who choose this practice area to be employed sooner.
- ❖ **SB 457 (Scott).** This bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to standardize all nursing program prerequisites between community colleges and the California State University systems to facilitate matriculation. In addition, the bill would create a state-wide information system to identify nursing program vacancies and make such information available to potential students.
- ❖ **SB 664 (Poochigian).** This bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to facilitate the education of registered nurses and assist LVNs to transition to RN education programs. Some of the assistance would be in the form of funding.

If you would like more information on these bills or other legislation, you may visit the web at www.leginfo.ca.gov.



Update On Acute Care Staffing Ratio Bill



In 1999, Assembly Bill 394 (Kuehl, Chapter 945) was signed into law by Governor Davis requiring the Department of Health Services (DHS) to adopt regulations that establish licensed nurse to patient ratios for all nursing units in general acute care hospitals and acute psychiatric hospitals. DHS has been working since that time to gather data from interested stakeholders. DHS has also contracted with the Regents of the UC system for researchers to assist with determining current staffing levels, and determining quality indicators to evaluate the changes the new law will bring.

On July 21, 2000, Governor Davis signed Assembly Bill 1760 (Kuehl) which extended the date for adoption of the new regulations from January 1, 2001 to January 1, 2002. DHS is continuing to study data in order to develop ratios that will best serve California's acute care patients.

California Mental Health Planning Council

The California Mental Health Planning Council convened the Human Resources Summit in March, 2000 to address the crisis in human resources facing the mental health system. Various mechanisms to increase the number of persons available to work at all levels in the mental health field are being explored by different small work groups.



Another Human Resources Summit was held in March 2001 to update participants on the progress of the work groups and to plan the next actions.

Progress Report on PT Occupational Analysis

In the last issue, PRN reported that the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, in conjunction with the Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Examination Resources had commenced a study of the



Psychiatric Technician profession. This study is essential to maintenance of the currency and job relatedness of the California Psychiatric Technician Licensure Examination. Additionally, the study is consistent with requirements for State licensure examinations set forth in California Business & Professions Code Section 139.

Specifically, the goal of the study is identification of those tasks that are commonly performed by Psychiatric Technicians. The purpose of the analysis is identification of the essential job tasks that are commonly performed by Psychiatric Technicians upon entry into the profession. Included in the study is the delineation of critical knowledge, skills, and abilities required to ensure safe and competent task performance upon entry into the profession.

On January 31, 2001, the Psychiatric Technician Occupational Analysis Questionnaire was mailed to 2,000 randomly selected psychiatric technicians throughout the state. On February 27 and 28, 2001, an additional 655 surveys were disseminated. Specifically, each participant was asked to identify:

- The degree of harm to the client if the task is performed incorrectly;
- When proficiency in task performance was acquired in school or on the job;
- How important each knowledge statement is to the performance of required tasks; and
- When the knowledge was acquired – during school or on the job.

(Continued next column – See ANALYSIS)

Plastic Licenses



In July 2000, the Board received budget authority to contract with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. (NCSBN) to produce plastic licenses through their vendor, CardPro. The plastic licenses produced by NCSBN contain a special hologram, and provide enhanced security as they cannot be altered. The use of plastic licenses will also eliminate the problem of torn or damaged licenses, substandard printing and reduce the ability for individuals to forge or alter the licenses.

On January 12, 2001, the Board converted from the paper pocket license to a plastic credit-card style license. All new and renewing licensed vocational nurses and psychiatric technicians since that time have been issued the new plastic license card.

Current licensees who want a plastic credit-card style license prior to their normal renewal period may obtain a new license by submitting an application for a replacement license with the required duplicate license fee, **and** returning the paper license in their possession to the Board. The application forms may be requested by contacting the Board's office at (916) 263-7800, and are also on the Board's website at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

ANALYSIS

(Continued)

A deadline of March 15, 2001 was established for the submission of respondent data. In June 2001, a Subject Matter Expert panel will be convened to complete a final review of licensee responses and make recommendations relative to content. Ultimately, a new Psychiatric Technician Test Plan will be developed. This document is the blueprint for the California Psychiatric Technician Licensure Examination.

Completion of the Occupational Analysis is projected for October 2001. A final report is scheduled for presentation at the November 2001 Board meeting.

Legislative Update



The Board is watching the following bills in the current legislative session:

AB 87 (Jackson) - This bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to award grants to community college districts for the purpose of developing curricula and pilot programs that provide specialized training to licensed nurses in the following areas of critical care: emergency; obstetrics; pediatrics; neonatal intensive care; and operating room.

AB 269 (Correa) - This bill would provide for professional and vocational licensing boards to obtain the approval of the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs before appointing an executive officer.

AB 644 (Cox) - This bill would require the State Department of Health Services (DHS) to suspend the enforcement of its regulation requiring registered and licensed vocational nurses providing specified services through a home health agency to have one year of prior professional nursing experience. The bill would remain in effect only until January 1, 2004, unless a statute enacted before January 1, 2004, deletes or extends that date. Additionally, this bill would require DHS to ensure by January 1, 2005, that all medical facilities licensed by DHS are accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, an organization specializing in accrediting health care facilities in correctional settings.

SB 349 (Committee on Business and Professions) - This bill would require that all accrued and unpaid renewal fees be paid at the time of renewal of an expired license. Existing law provides for the licensure of persons in various professions and vocations and requires payment of a renewal fee upon the renewal of an expired license. Under existing law, these renewal fees are deposited into funds that are continuously appropriated. Because this bill would increase the amount of renewal fees paid in to a number of continuously appropriated funds, the bill would make an appropriation.

SB 396 (Kuehl) - This bill would provide that no peace officer employee of the Department of Corrections or the Department of the Youth Authority shall provide the services of either a licensed vocational nurse or a registered nurse. Additionally, this bill would establish specified employment procedures for these departments regarding peace officers, medical technicians, and nurses, as well as guidelines for the decision making authority of a vocational nurse with respect to the care and treatment of inmates effective January 2, 2003.

SB 457 (Scott) - This bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to standardize all nursing program prerequisites on a statewide basis between the California State University and California Community Colleges systems; enter into transfer agreements between all of the California State Universities and all Community Colleges statewide; and create and implement a statewide nursing program vacancy information system to expedite students finding schools with admission openings.

SB 664 (Poochigian) - This bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to facilitate the education and development of new qualified registered nurses. The bill would require that funds appropriated for purposes of the bill be expended for programs such as, but not limited to, those that financially assist students in pursuing associate degrees in nursing and those that financially assist persons in transitioning from the designation of licensed vocational nurse to registered nurse.

SB 724 (Committee on Business and Professions) - This bill would amend sections of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act to extend the minimum period of time required for a licensed vocational nurse or a psychiatric technician to wait prior to applying for reinstatement of a license, modification of probation, or termination of probation.



Regulations for IV Medication Administration



Beginning in the 1970's and continuing to the present, the Board has received numerous questions whether LVNs who are Board-certified in intravenous therapy (IV) may administer IV medications integral to hemodialysis, pheresis and blood bank units. Many have expressed great concern about the increased use of unlicensed assistive personnel to administer these IV medications. Among the reasons for their distress was:

- Lack of standardized training compared to that of an LVN;
- Lack of accountability compared to a licensed vocational nurse;
- No state board oversight; and
- Safety of consumers.

In light of consumer safety and the nursing shortage, the Board considered this issue.

On March 2, 2001, the Board published the public notice of proposed regulations that would permit LVNs who are Board certified in IV therapy to administer under certain requirements those medications that are considered by the physician to be integral to the process used in hemodialysis, pheresis and blood banks.

A public hearing was held on April 17, 2001 in Sacramento to receive comments about the proposal. If you would like more information on these regulations, you may visit the Board's web site at www.bvnpt.ca.gov or contact Kim Frankland at (916) 263-7848.



Professional Ethics Regulation Update

In the last issue, PRN reported that in June 2000, the Board directed staff to develop regulations specifying unethical conduct as grounds for disciplinary action. The intent of developing the proposed regulations is to clarify the Board's authority to take action against licensees for unethical conduct relative to their professional practice.

To give the public an opportunity to provide input in this area, the Board held a public forum on September 27, 2000. In addition to Committee Members and Board staff, approximately 18 individuals attended.

On November 15, 2000, the Board's Enforcement Committee met to discuss the proposed regulatory language. The full Board, on November 17, 2000, adopted the Committee's recommendation to approve the proposed regulatory language amending Sections 2518.6 and 2576.6 of the California Code of Regulations to specify unethical conduct as unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action.

The Board anticipates filing a notice of proposed regulations by the end of this year. To receive a copy of the notice, please submit a written request to be placed on the Board's proposed regulations mailing list.



2001 BOARD MEETING DATES

April *26-27, 2001
*San Diego, CA

June *28-29, 2001
Los Angeles, CA

September *6-7, 2001
Pasadena, CA

November *15-16, 2001
Sacramento, CA

* Reinstatement Hearings and Disciplinary Actions are conducted on the first Board Meeting day.

(*NOTE: Revised date and location effective 2/8/01)

All Board meeting dates and locations are subject to change. Meeting times are approximate. Interested parties should call the Board at (916) 263-7845 to confirm the date and specific meeting site of any Board meeting or access the Board's web site at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

Board Member Information

The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians is composed of 11 members. Two members are licensed vocational nurses, two are Psychiatric Technicians, one member is a VN or registered nurse with a background in a VN School, and six members are public members. The Governor appoints nine Board members. The Speaker of the Assembly and the President Pro Tem of the Senate appoint one public member each. Board Members can serve two full terms, and may serve up to one additional year (called a grace period) while the Governor or Legislature conducts its appointment interviews. Each term is 4 years and always expires on June 1st.

The Board's goal/purpose is to protect the health and welfare of California consumers who receive health care services from a licensed vocational nurse or a psychiatric technician. Toward this end, the Board members' primary roles are to:

- ◆ Review established minimum qualifications and assure current entry level practices;
- ◆ Set policy by establishing new regulations;
- ◆ Make decisions regarding disciplinary actions or remedies to assure safe and competent practice; and
- ◆ Review and evaluate evidence related to licensees' rehabilitation.

The Board meets five times per year to transact regular business, which consists of authorizations for use of faculty and clinical facilities, curriculum changes, vocational nurse and psychiatric technicians school accreditation reports, budget reports, legislative reports, and disciplinary actions.

Additional information about the Board, including Board meeting schedules and agendas are posted on the Board's Web site at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

Information about the Governor's appointment process and applications for appointment may be accessed through the Governor's Web site at www.governor.ca.gov.

Information about the Speaker of the Assembly's appointment process may be obtained through the office of the Speaker, Assembly Member Robert M. Hertzberg, at (916) 319-2040, or on the Web at www.assembly.ca.gov.

Information about the President Pro Tem of the Senate's appointment process may be obtained through the office of the President Pro Tem, John Burton, at (916) 445-1412, or on the Web at www.senate.ca.gov.

Information about Boards or Bureaus of the Department of Consumer Affairs may be obtained by contacting the Department of Consumer Affairs, Office of Board Relations, at (916) 323-2191, or on the Web at www.dca.ca.gov.

2001 Board Officers

- *Carolyn Duncan*, PT was re-elected Board President effective February 2, 2001.
- *Sister Marie de Porres Taylor*, Public Member, was re-elected Vice President effective February 2, 2001.

Term Limits for Board Members

- ◆ On June 1, 2000, the terms of appointment expired for the following Board Members: *Carolyn Duncan*, PT; *Cecelia Estrada*, RN; *Dorothy Jue Lee*, Public Member; and *Bridget Robins*, Public Member. These members are serving a grace period, which will expire June 1, 2001.
- ◆ The terms of appointment for *Mary Humphrey*, Public Member, and *R. June Shockency*, Public Member will expire June 1, 2001, but they may also serve a grace period of one additional year.

NCLEX-PN Test Plan Workshop



On November 30, 2000, representatives of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians convened a workshop with vocational nursing program directors and faculty at the Hilton at Los Angeles Airport, Los Angeles, California. Carolyn Duncan, Board President, and Cecilia Estrada, Chair of the Education and Practice Committee, were also in attendance. The purpose of this workshop was to:

- Identify barriers that hinder student success on the licensure examination.
- Identify factors that support student success on the licensure examination.

After a presentation by the Board's Executive Officer the participants divided into groups to discuss the following topics:

- A. General Issues Affecting Student Success.
- B. Factors that Decrease Student Success and Comprehension of Presented Curricular Content.
- C. Strategies to Increase Student Compliance with Curricular Requirements.
- D. Strategies to improve Candidate Performance on the NCLEX-PN®

Some of the factors that were identified as being critical to student success include:

1. Preadmission knowledge about commitment (time and money) required by program.
2. Preadmission math and reading skills adequate to meet requirements of program.
3. Assistance with development of critical thinking skills.
4. Consistent student attendance at classroom and clinical activities.
5. Collaboration between faculty and students to address diversity issues.
6. Correlation of theory and clinical practice within the curriculum.
7. Mentoring by instructors, other students and graduates.

8. Adequate preparation for taking licensure examination
 - a) NCLEX-PN® Test Plan integrated in curriculum.
 - b) Test construction throughout curriculum based on NCLEX-PN® format.
 - c) Practice time available to develop familiarity with taking test on a computer.
9. Encouraging students to take the licensure examination as soon as possible after qualifying for the exam.

A summary of all the group findings was distributed to the program directors in February 2001.

The Board plans future workshops.



Take Some Time, Do Your Part

As professionals, we often get bogged down in our day to day routines. The last thing we want to do when we get home from work is to fill out a survey. But surveys are a valuable way to gain information that is critical to a particular issue. The Board frequently uses survey tools to obtain information from its stakeholders about how it can better perform its role as a consumer protection agency.

If you receive a survey about your education, work, patient care issues or health care in general, please take a few moments to complete the survey and return it. Providing this kind of information is an important part of your professional responsibility. Who knows, you may reap the rewards!

NCLEX Registration Fees

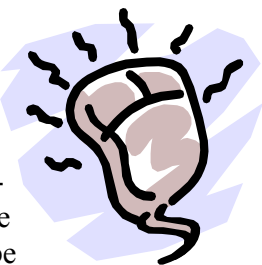


The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. (NCSBN) has informed the Board that effective October 1, 2001, the NCLEX registration fee will be changed from \$120.00 to **\$200.00**.

The NCLEX registration fee is not a Board fee. It is the fee for registering for the examination, and is submitted to the NCLEX Data Center after the applicant is evaluated and deemed eligible by the Board. The NCLEX registration fee is established by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc., and is subject to change by that organization at any time.

The fee for NCLEX registration by mail will be **\$200.00** for registrations **postmarked** on or after October 1, 2001. The fee for telephone registration via credit card will be \$212.00.

Mouse & Calculator Debut April 2001



NCSBN has announced that effective April 1, 2001, a mouse interface and drop-down calculator option for the NCLEX® examination will be implemented. Candidates will have the option of utilizing the mouse or the keyboard while taking their examination. The drop-down calculator, a feature of the software program that will be available when test site enhancements are implemented, will enable candidates to use a calculator if desired.

NCLEX Exam Test Service Selected



In August 1999, NCSBN selected NCS Pearson, Inc. as the new test vendor for the NCLEX® examination beginning October 1, 2002. NCS Pearson, headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, was selected after thorough review and discussion of a comprehensive proposal outlining every aspect of the NCLEX examination.

The Board is working with NCSBN and NCS Pearson staff on transition issues, and has volunteered to participate in the Alpha and Beta testing of the NCLEX transition process. If selected, the Board will be recruiting applicants to volunteer to register and take their licensure examinations through NCS Pearson instead of the Sylvan Testing Centers in March 2002. Because NCS Pearson will be testing the examination administration process, and not the examination itself, they will be using “real” examination questions, and the examination results from the Beta testing will be valid results.

The NCS Pearson proposal included a number of benefits for boards of nursing and nurse candidates, including a shared information system that will provide boards of nursing with key performance indicators of NCLEX examination administration activities, online examination scheduling, registration and appointment confirmations via the internet for candidates.

There will be no interruption in testing for nurse candidates. The NCLEX examination program will continue to be administered by the current test vendor, The Chauncey Group International, until the new contract begins October 1, 2002.

Dept. of Justice Applicant Live Scan Project



The Department of Justice (DOJ) Applicant Live Scan process is a system for the electronic submission of fingerprints and subsequent automated background check and response. The Applicant Live Scan process for vocational nurse and psychiatric technician applicants was fully implemented as of December 1, 2000.

Live scan technology replaces the process of recording an individual's fingerprint patterns through a rolling process using ink and a standard 8" X 8" fingerprint card. Digitizing the fingerprints allows the electronic transfer of the fingerprint image and the applicant's personal information to DOJ in a matter of seconds, instead of the days required to send hard copy fingerprints through the mail. DOJ is able to process up to 95% of electronic applicant fingerprint submissions in 72 hours or less. In those instances where a complete record is not available or manual processing is required, additional time is needed for a response. This is a substantial improvement over the "hard-card" fingerprint process, which takes 8-12 weeks for a response.

Applicant Live Scan was implemented in phases. The initial phase was implemented on September 28, 2000, during the Southern California Directors Forum, at which time Board staff distributed the forms and reviewed the new procedures with the Southern California program directors. This phase also included those applicants that had been experiencing delays in licensure due to their "hard-card" fingerprints being rejected or lost by DOJ. The Live Scan procedures were reviewed with the Northern California program directors during the Northern California Directors Forum held November 16, 2000.

The last phase of implementation was to include the Applicant Live Scan forms and instructions in the application packets sent to new applicants. This phase began December 1, 2000. THE HARD-CARD PROCESS IS STILL AVAILABLE AND ACCEPTABLE FOR APPLICANTS THAT DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO LIVE SCAN TERMINALS.

Licenses Must Report Unprofessional Conduct

The Board requires licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) and psychiatric technicians (PTs) to report to the Board instances of unprofessional conduct by fellow employees who are also Board licensees. ***Failure to report unprofessional conduct by a licensed co-worker is grounds for disciplinary action.*** For example:



If you are a Board licensee...You must report the following to the Board:

- When you see another LVN or PT take medications for personal or other use which were prescribed to a patient.
- When you see another LVN or PT withhold a patient's prescribed care or privileges to achieve physical, emotional or psychological satisfaction.
- When you see another LVN or PT engage in physical or sexual abuse of, or misconduct to, a patient.

These are just a few examples. It is important to remember that if you see another LVN or PT behave in a manner which constitutes unprofessional conduct and you fail to report it, your inaction also constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result in disciplinary action against your license.



Patient Abandonment Revisited



The October 2000 issue of *PRN* contained an article discussing the elements that constitute “patient abandonment” with reference to licensed vocational nurses. Subsequently, the Board received questions about the article from psychiatric technicians who asked if the statement applied to them as well.

The Board’s statement regarding patient abandonment **applies** to psychiatric technicians and licensed vocational nurses and is reprinted here for your information.

*The nurse-patient relationship begins when responsibility for a patient’s care is **accepted by the nurse**. Patient abandonment occurs if the nurse first **accepts** a patient assignment, thus establishing a nurse-patient relationship, then **severs** that relationship usually by leaving the patient without giving reasonable notice to a supervisor or patient/responsible family member (if in a home care setting), so that continuation of care can be arranged.*

Refusal to accept an assignment, failure to notify an employer that the nurse will not work an assigned shift, and refusal to work additional hours are **not** considered patient abandonment by the Board for the purpose of disciplinary action against a licensee.

Please note that the Board has no jurisdiction over employment policies and contract issues.

Disciplinary Overview Brochures



The Board developed two new brochures titled *Disciplinary Overview*, *Convictions, Frequently Asked Questions* and *Disciplinary Overview, Disciplinary Process, Frequently Asked Questions*. The brochures were developed to inform and educate consumers and licensees regarding the disciplinary process, convictions, fingerprint requirements, licenses, statutes, regulations and the Board’s web site.

To receive a copy, call (916) 263-7800 or you can review the brochures on the Board’s Internet web site at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

Citations & Fines



One of the Board’s strategic goals is to ensure that the public is protected from unprofessional, incompetent and grossly negligent practitioners by investigating complaints and taking disciplinary action in an objective, timely and cost effective manner. The Citation and Fine Program provides the Board with an additional enforcement tool to ensure resolution of violations that do not warrant suspension, revocation or probation of a license.

The Board has authority to issue two classes of citations, Class A and Class B. The classification of the citation is determined by considering the nature and severity of the violation, the length of time that has lapsed since the violation, consequences to the public including potential or actual patient harm, the licensee’s history of previous violations of the same or similar nature and evidence that the act was willful.

Class A violations represent the most serious threat to the health and safety of consumers for which citations can be issued. They are issued for violations which resulted in or could have resulted in patient harm and where there is no evidence that revocation or other disciplinary action is required to ensure consumer safety. These include patient abandonment, falsifying nursing notes and violations committed for personal or financial gain. The fine for each Class A violation cannot be less than \$1,001 or more than \$2,500.

Class B violations represent a lesser threat to consumer safety. They are issued for minor or technical violations that are not directly or potentially detrimental to patients nor directly or potentially impact their care and continue for less than six months duration. These include practicing with an expired license, precharting, charting errors, and verbal abuse. The fine for a Class B citation cannot exceed \$1,000.

Licensees who receive a citation and fine have appeal rights under the law. If the citation is not appealed or the citation is sustained after appeal, the license cannot be renewed until the fine is paid.

A Citation issued to a licensee becomes a permanent part of the licensee’s record and may be disclosed to the public.

California Energy Challenge

California is facing a major energy challenge.

We can all help reduce consumption and improve energy efficiency. While California continues to experience electrical shortages and rolling blackouts, Governor Davis and leaders of the California Legislature are working with utilities, energy generators, and consumer groups to forge a long-term solution to this problem. In the short run, California's consumers and businesses can work to reduce electricity usage and use energy more efficiently.



In the BVNPT, and in all State of California agencies, we've implemented a plan to reduce consumption by a minimum of 8 percent. During critical power shortages, State agencies will conserve 20 percent. The Governor also has asked all Californians to reduce their electricity use by at least 8 percent.

California has the power of nearly 35 million people and the sixth largest economy in the world. By implementing a few simple energy-saving measures, we can avoid shortages, lower energy bills, and have a **major impact** on the availability of power.

We're asking you to *flex your power*. Each of us has an important role to play **right now**.

- Reduce usage during peak demand hours—5 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Turn off all non-essential lights and equipment. When you're not using it, turn it off. Unplug equipment not in regular use, such as VCRs and phone chargers. Putting computers in "sleep" mode can save up to 40 percent in energy consumption.
- Turn thermostats to 68° or lower during the day. At home, turn the temperature down to 55° before going to sleep or when gone for the day. For every one degree you lower your thermostat, you'll save up to 5 percent on your heating bill.
- At night, close shades and blinds to reduce heat lost through windows.

- Buy Energy Star® appliances, products, and lights, which are more energy efficient than older models.
- Seal off unused or storage areas from heating.

Kids also can save energy through their schools by turning off lights, computers, and other electrical equipment during recess and after school. Tell your kids: "Save a little, save a watt."

Taken together, each of these small steps add up. Whether at work or at home, we can make a **dramatic difference** in the energy crunch.



Change Of Address

Pursuant to California Business and Professions Code Section 136, licensees are required to notify the Board in writing of any changes of mailing address within 30 days after the change. Violation of this statute may result in the issuance of a citation and fine. Additionally, failure to notify the Board of a new address in writing will result in unnecessary delays in receipt of your renewal forms, renewed license, and other important correspondence from the Board.

Please submit your change of address in writing to the Board and be sure to include your name, license number, old address and new address. Please also be aware that your address of record is public information and may be disclosed upon request.



ENFORCEMENT

ENFORCEMENT ACTION LIST*

Licensed Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians

July 1, 2000 – December 31, 2000

The Board publishes and distributes its Enforcement Action List in January and July each year. The list identifies licensees who were formally disciplined by the Board during the six months immediately preceding publication of the list.

Examples of formal discipline include:

Revocation: The license is taken away from the licensee for a minimum of one year;

Probation: The license is placed on probationary status which includes specific terms and conditions of compliance; and

Other disciplinary proceedings include:

Cite/Fine: The licensee is issued a citation and required to pay a fine commensurate with the violation committed.

To receive a copy, call (916) 263-7800, or you can access the list on the Board's Internet web site at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

*NOTE: Although every effort is made to ensure that the following information is correct, interested parties should call the Board at (916) 263-7800 to obtain updated and accurate license information.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS – LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES

July 1, 2000 – December 31, 2000

I. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

A. LICENSE REVOKED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
ANDREWS, SHARLIE	VN 37760	09/09/2000
ARMISTEAD, CEDRIC	VN 75747	09/17/2000
BARBER, MATTHEW	VN 164791	12/09/2000
BECK, SUSAN	VN 160344	12/09/2000
BERGSTROM, JERRY	VN 169155	12/09/2000
BOCKOVER, BARBARA	VN 144412	12/09/2000
CASH, ELEANOR	VN 183523	07/21/2000
FUENTECILLA, RUEL	VN 137522	09/22/2000
GIBSON, MARY	VN 168455	07/21/2000
GOMEZ, FATIMA	VN 188144	12/09/2000
GROOM, JANICE	VN 102360	12/09/2000
HEAPS, ERIC	VN 158552	07/21/2000
JACKSON, CARYL	VN 78379	09/09/2000
JONES, PAULA	VN 143271	09/09/2000
JORDAN, PAUL	VN 117690	09/17/2000
KELLY, WARREN	VN 88061	09/13/2000
LAFITTE, SHARON	VN 112559	12/09/2000
MARTINEZ, MARIA	VN 80063	09/09/2000
MONTOYA, EVELYN	VN 77814	10/11/2000
PORCHE, RENEE	VN 109596	07/21/2000

(Continued on page 13, see ENFORCEMENT ACTION LIST)

ENFORCEMENT ACTION LIST

(Continued from Page 12)

A. LICENSE REVOKED Continued...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
MORA, RICKEY	VN 182998	09/09/2000
MYCHAJLONKA, VICTORIA	VN 31441	09/09/2000
O'CONNELL, SANDRA	VN 161609	09/09/2000
REID, JERI	VN 96131	07/21/2000
RODRIGUEZ, RICARDO	VN 123265	10/09/2000
RUSSELL, SHERYL	VN 168057	09/09/2000
SAVEDRA, PHYLLIS	VN 149945	10/09/2000
TARTAGLIA, TRACY	VN 167410	07/21/2000
TAVEY, BERTHA	VN 93112	09/09/2000
TOMLIN, CYNTHIA	VN 117689	07/29/2000

B. REVOCATION STAYED, PLACED ON PROBATION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>BEGIN</u>	<u>END</u>
ABEJUELA, ANGELITO	VN 144617	09/17/00	09/17/03
BARNARD, ELIZABETH	VN 143399	12/29/00	12/29/03
CHINCHILLA, GODOFREDO	VN 161547	09/17/00	09/17/03
DUNHAM, ALLAN	VN 165539	10/11/00	10/11/03
FRANCISCO, PETER	VN 160780	12/29/00	12/29/05
WILSON, DALE	VN 164955	08/23/00	08/23/03
WOFFORD, BRUCE	VN 144399	10/11/00	10/11/03
YOUNGS, DEBRA	VN 149819	12/22/00	06/22/02

C. VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
JENNINGS, RACHEL	VN 173183	12/29/2000
NEWKIRK, GARRY	VN 158586	10/11/2000
SHELTON, MARGARET	VN 116919	10/11/2000
TYLER, ETTA	VN 107839	08/23/2000

D. APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE GRANTED ON PROBATION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>BEGIN</u>	<u>END</u>
BALDOMERO-ROMERO, BEVERLY	VN APPLICANT	12/29/00	12/29/04
COBB, NICOLE	VN 192939	10/11/00	10/11/03
EUBANKS, SAMANTHA	VN 192753	08/23/00	08/23/03
JACKSON, QIANA	VN 192756	08/23/00	08/23/03
SOLIVEN, RONALD	VN APPLICANT	08/24/00	08/24/03
TOMANENG, BRYAN	VN 193378	09/17/00	09/17/05

E. APPLICATION DENIED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
BLACKMON, SHAKIRA	VN APPLICANT	08/23/00

II. OTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

A. CITE/FINE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
AGBOGHIDI, MAGDALENE – Fined \$1,001.00	VN 184284	10/23/2000
ANCHETA, CONCEPCION – Fined \$250.00	VN 190899	10/18/2000
ARMSTRONG, NEDRA – Fined \$1,001.00	VN 166928	10/30/2000
BARRIE, NENEH – Fined \$250.00	VN 184851	12/13/2000
BEATON, GEORGINA – Fined \$440.00	VN 130681	12/20/2000
BELL, TAMARA – Fined \$500.00	VN 177120	10/26/2000
BYNOE, MONIQUE – Fined \$100.00	VN 191304	10/26/2000

(Continued on page 14, see ENFORCEMENT ACTION LIST)

ENFORCEMENT ACTION LIST

(Continued from Page 13)

A. CITE/FINE Continued...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
CALDERON, REBECCA – Fined \$250.00	VN 192799	12/14/2000
CALERO, INGRID – Fined \$250.00	VN 193097	12/08/2000
CANTERO, JACKIE – Fined \$250.00	VN 192457	12/14/2000
CARDEJON-LEIVA, JONAL – Fined \$250.00	VN 189533	12/08/2000
DAVIS, MICHELLE – Fined \$250.00	VN 193090	12/08/2000
DEL ROSARIO, JENNIFER – Fined \$1,650.00	VN 173596	12/21/2000
DEL ROSARIO, NARCISO – Fined \$620.00	VN 146375	12/13/2000
FOLEY, STACEY – Fined \$250.00	VN 191167	10/26/2000
FONCECA, MARTY – Fined \$250.00	VN 192434	12/12/2000
GAVI, ROGER – Fined \$250.00	VN 191071	10/26/2000
GORGE, VICKI – Fined \$250.00	VN 192154	12/12/2000
HANVUTHINANON, CHUKIAT – Fined \$500.00	VN 184489	12/19/2000
HARTLEY, KAREN – Fined \$250.00	VN 176363	12/12/2000
HECKER, JUDY – Fined \$500.00	VN 129975	10/25/2000
HERNANDEZ, CLAUDIA – Fined \$250.00	VN 191258	10/26/2000
HERRERA, DINORA – Fined \$250.00	VN 192743	12/19/2000
HODGES, RAMONA – Fined \$250.00	VN 189514	10/18/2000
HUDSON, CHARLOTTE – Fined \$250.00	VN 189264	10/18/2000
HUTAPEA, SUZANNA – Fined \$250.00	VN 190584	10/19/2000
INGRAM, TASHA – Fined \$250.00	VN 190597	10/19/2000
JONES, MICHELLE – Fined \$500.00	VN 161641	10/18/2000
KARNO, MORGAN – Fined \$1,051.00	VN 180381	12/20/2000
KIMENKER, BRENDA – Fined \$50.00	VN 49121	10/30/2000
LOEBLEIN, PARVA – Fined \$500.00	VN 152007	12/19/2000
LOWRY, PAMELA – Fined \$250.00	VN 189628	10/18/2000
MARTIN, ELOISA – Fined \$1,001.00	VN 169287	12/20/2000
MATA, LYNETTE – Fined \$250.00	VN 192433	12/13/2000
MCKINNEY, MARIBETH – Fined \$250.00	VN 192011	10/30/2000
MONARQUE, SHERI – Fined \$250.00	VN 184794	12/19/2000
MOORE, KATHRINE – Fined \$50.00	VN 178874	10/26/2000
MORRIE, HEATH – Fined \$250.00	VN 192026	11/20/2000
NEVAREZ, JENNIFER – Fined \$1,001.00	VN 177622	12/21/2000
NOOL, LOURDES – Fined \$250.00	VN 86594	12/20/2000
PASCUAL, VINIA – Fined \$400.00	VN 160641	10/25/2000
PENNINGTON, DWIGHT – Fined \$250.00	VN 193251	12/14/2000
RUNNER, BRENT – Fined \$250.00	VN 190384	12/08/2000
SALVADOR, EDITHA – Fined \$1,001.00	VN 155227	10/25/2000
SMITH, NIKKISHA – Fined \$250.00	VN 191877	12/20/2000
STONE, EVERLIE – Fined \$50.00	VN 189592	10/26/2000
SUPNET, PAUL – Fined \$500.00	VN 178713	12/12/2000
THOMAS, KAREN – Fined \$250.00	VN 190983	10/24/2000
TOLENTINO, CHRISTIAN – Fined \$1,001.00	VN 188129	10/30/2000
TURNER, BARBARA – Fined \$250.00	VN 193328	12/08/2000
URIAS, TELMA – Fined \$500.00	VN 192547	12/20/2000
VAN HOSEN, CARLA – Fined \$50.00	VN 102856	10/23/2000
VALENCIA, CELEDONIA – Fined \$1,001.00	VN 150736	12/21/2000
WALKER, PHILLIP – Fined \$1,390.00	VN 117770	12/19/2000
WOODS, KENDRA – Fined \$250.00	VN 191396	10/26/2000
YBARRA, SONIA – Fined \$250.00	VN 191135	10/26/2000

(Continued on page 15, see ENFORCEMENT ACTION LIST)

ENFORCEMENT ACTION LIST

(Continued from Page 14)

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS – LICENSED PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS

July 1, 2000 – December 31, 2000

I. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

A. LICENSE REVOKED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
ARGENBRIGHT, JAMES	PT 28238	12/09/2000
BORGARDUS, RICHARD	PT 23020	07/21/2000
BORUM, CURTIS	PT 28213	09/09/2000
BRIGHT, KRYSTIQUE	PT 29784	08/20/2000
ESTRADA, LAURA	PT 23703	12/09/2000
GILBERT, OTIS	PT 22496	12/09/2000
GROGANS, EDWARD	PT 29297	08/20/2000
JOHNSON, DAVID	PT 29338	12/09/2000
LUCAS, STEPHANIE	PT 27412	09/17/2000
MCCARTY, JACK	PT 22896	08/23/2000
NICHOLSON, PENNY	PT 17990	09/09/2000
RIZZO-COLLINS, THERESA	PT 26078	09/09/2000
ROBERTS, ANAND	PT 29351	10/11/2000
THOMPSON, GERONE	PT 29622	10/11/2000

B. REVOCATION STAYED, PLACED ON PROBATION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>BEGIN</u>	<u>END</u>
BRADFORD, ANDRE	PT 22945	09/17/00	09/17/03
BURPEE, ILONA	PT 15901	09/17/00	09/17/03
HOFFMAN, JOHN	PT 25808	07/21/00	07/21/03
LAGUA, RANDY	PT 20730	08/23/00	08/23/02
SANCHEZ, SHERRY	PT 25472	08/23/00	08/23/02
WILSON, PAMELA	PT 16416	09/17/00	09/17/03

C. VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
SAMSON, MICHAEL	PT 26026	12/29/2000
STEELE, ALLAN	PT 29594	10/11/2000

D. APPLICATION DENIED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
JOHNSON, LATRICE	PT APPLICANT	12/09/2000

II. OTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

A. CITE/FINE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
ALEXANDER, JILL – Fined \$250.00	PT 26882	10/30/2000
GALLAGHER, KAROLELYNN – Fined \$70.00	PT 30260	12/12/2000
HARRIS, JANET – Fined \$1,001.00	PT 26427	10/30/2000
HOWARD, SEAN – Fined \$100.00	PT 30538	10/30/2000
JOHNS, SHEILA – Fined \$1,001.00	PT 21431	12/31/2000
JOHNSON, KAREN – Fined \$50.00	PT 26603	10/23/2000
KENNEY, KHRIS – Fined \$250.00	PT 23190	12/21/2000
KOHFELD, PAUL – Fined \$1,001.00	PT 18390	12/21/2000
MAXWELL, COLETTE – Fined \$1,001.00	PT 26707	09/06/2000
NEFF, CLAIRE – Fined \$1,001.00	PT 23484	12/19/2000
SCHAEFFER, WILLIAM – Fined \$250.00	PT 30546	10/18/2000
TERRELL, ROBERT – Fined \$250.00	PT 18198	12/20/2000

*NOTE: Although every effort is made to ensure that the following information is correct, interested parties should call the Board at (916) 263-7800 to obtain updated and accurate license information.

<http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov>

One of the Board's strategic goals is to communicate effectively and work cooperatively with its stakeholders. To meet this goal the Board is now on the Web.

The webpage provides information regarding the Board's roles, functions and services, as well as issues and concerns pertaining to health care and the disciplinary process.

Updated, redesigned and enhanced to meet the State's official standards, the website is averaging 2000 hits per month. Take a look!

Important Telephone Numbers



The following is a list of telephone numbers you may call should you require assistance:

- For general LVN information and questions about Examinations, call (916) 263-7800.
- For general PT information and questions about Examinations, call (916) 263-7830.
- For questions about an LVN or PT "scope of practice", call the Board's Education Unit at (916) 263-7843.
- To file a complaint against a licensee, call the Board's Enforcement Unit at (916) 263-7822.

Other Regulatory Agencies

- ❖ For questions regarding Registered Nurses (RNs), call the Board of Registered Nursing at (916) 322-3350.
- ❖ For questions regarding Certified Nurse Assistants (CNAs), call the Department of Health Services, Licensing & Certification Unit, at (916) 327-2445.

PRN

*The official newsletter of the Board of Vocational
Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians*

Gray Davis, *Governor*
State of California

Aileen Adams, *Agency Secretary*
State and Consumer Services Agency

Kathleen Hamilton, *Director*
Department of Consumer Affairs

*Members, Board of Vocational Nursing and
Psychiatric Technicians*

Carolyn Duncan, P.T., *President*

Cecelia Estrada, R.N.

Mary Humphrey

Dorothy Jue Lee

Bridget Robins

R. June Shockency

Sister Marie de Porres Taylor

Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.
Executive Officer

Marina C. Okimoto
Assistant Executive Officer

Cheryl Anderson, R.N.
Suellen Clayworth, R.N.

Kim Frankland

Angela Hole

Angelina Martin

Linda Montoya

Michael Orilla

Ann Shuman, R.N.

Editorial Staff

*This newsletter is presented to inform the reader of current
Board policies, issues and activities with respect to the
practice of licensed vocational nurses and psychiatric
technicians in the State of California.*